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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/898,692	07/03/2001	Chien-Shih Hsu	B-4236 618930-7	1775

36716 7590 10/05/2004

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EXAMINER

LIANG, REGINA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/898,692

Applicant(s)

HSU ET AL.

Examiner

Regina Liang

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5, 8, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lin (US. PUB. NO. 2003/0002900).

As to claims 1, 8, 16, Lin teaches a folding keyboard (Figs. 2-6) is divided into a fixed key module 14 (a first key-base section) and a mobile key module 15 (a second key-base section), the fixed key module 14 and the mobile key module 15 are pivotally joined together by using the links 16. Fig. 17 of Lin teaches the fixed key module 14 is received and fixed in the receiving space 24 of a first cover plate 21 (first keyboard-base section), the mobile key module 15 is received and movably disposed in the receiving space 25 of a second cover plate 22 (this corresponds to the second key-base section is separably provided on the second keyboard-base section). Fig. 17 of Lin also shows that the first cover plate 21 and the second cover plate are pivotally joined together through the pivotal plate 23 and the two pivots 26 and 27 (see sections [0037] and [0038]).

As to claims 2-5, Figs. 3-6 of Lin teaches a hinge for pivotally connecting the two key modules.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 7, 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lin in view of Olodort et al (US. PAT. NO. 6,331,850 hereinafter Olodort).

Lin differs from the claims in not having a movably hinge and a groove in the second keyboard-base section to contain the movably hinge. However, Figs. 20, 22, 23 of Olodort teaches a collapsible keyboard having a movably hinge for connect two key sections, the key base having a groove to contain the movably hinge. Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the keyboard of Lin to have a movably hinge and a groove in the second keyboard-base section to contain the movably hinge as taught by Olodort to provide for a more compact profile when the assembly is collapsed.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Olodort et al (US. PAT. NO. 6,734,809) teaches a foldable keyboard.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Regina Liang whose telephone number is (703) 305-4719. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe, can be reached on (703) 305-4709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


REGINA LIANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2674

RL
9/30/04